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Parthia after the death of Pompey. The first and second of these ideas were taken up too late: the third was inherently impossible. . . . Caesar was not a great statesman; but he was a great destroyer. In him were personified all the revolutionary forces, the magnificent but devastating forces, of a mercantile age in conflict with the traditions of an old-world society." So Ferrero, in a work of great eloquence and rhetorical power, which is already widely and is sure to be much more widely read. The trained and conventional historian has much to learn from the work in the art of making ancient history alive again for us; but Ferrero has also much to learn from the trained and conventional historian in the scientific handling of authorities, the avoidance of rhetorical contradictions and exaggerations, the subjection of theory to fact.

Caesar had three great ideas: the reconstitution of the national democracy in 59; the application to the North, that teeming source of peril to the Italian peninsula, of the imperialism of Lucullus in the East; and the establishment of a constitutional monarchy. In the third alone was he unsuccessful, and here only partially, since Augustus built on the broad foundations which he had laid. Caesar was, it is true, a destroyer of the Old, but he was also a founder of the New.

B. PERRIN.

*Ancient Britain and the Invasions of Julius Caesar.* By T. RICE HOLMES, Hon. Litt.D. (Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1907. Pp. xvi, 764, 16.)

MR. RICE HOLMES is well known as a military historian and the author of a valuable book on *Caesar's Conquest of Gaul*, to which this volume on Britain is a natural sequel. But the present work, which began as a study of Caesar's invasions, has expanded in the author's hands until it has become a survey of the whole history or pre-history of Britain down to the arrival of the Romans, and only the closing chapters of the completed book—about one-sixth of the body of the narrative—deal with the campaigns of Caesar. After a preliminary sketch of the history of archaeological science in Britain, Mr. Holmes discusses the Ice Age and the first appearance of palaeolithic man. Then he traces step by step the successive races—"long barrow" and "round barrow" men and the later invaders—which entered into the British population up to the Roman period. The physical type of each is described, its geographical distribution, its archaeological remains and the probable character of its civilization. For the earlier periods, of course, the inferences with regard to civilization are few and doubtful; but for the later age of Celtic occupation materials are abundant, though not always of certain interpretation. In dealing with these varied problems, which involve knowledge of palaeontology, anthropology, archaeology, and classical and Celtic linguistics, hardly any scholar is able to write steadily with expert knowledge; and yet the subject is of single interest and invites treatment by a single hand. The

results of philological and anthropological investigation cannot be severed, and the two groups of specialists have to take account of each other as best they can. Mr. Holmes has coped very successfully with the difficulties of the situation, and his survey of the field is comprehensive and trustworthy. He shows wide and thorough acquaintance with the literature of the various sciences concerned, and his references constitute in themselves a valuable bibliography. In matters of doubt he is generally cautious in statement, particularly in the body of the work (a more positive tone appearing in his controversial appendixes); and when he departs from received opinion, he is careful to make the fact apparent to his readers. His criticism is shrewd and incisive—sometimes rather vivaciously personal, as where he refers (p. 291) to “that powerful but erratic engine, the mind of Professor Rhÿs”. It ought to be said, however, that the inconsistencies cited from the successive works of Professor Rhÿs are by no means altogether to the discredit of that open-minded scholar. Mr. Holmes manifests a certain condescension towards professors and a preference for the judgment of practical men (witness his contrast of “editors” and “soldiers” on page 688); but the bookmen will pardon this in a fellow-professor who takes such scrupulous account himself of the ancient documents and modern commentaries with which he has to deal.

It is hardly possible in a short review to give any useful summary of so extensive a work or to call attention to all the doubtful questions which it raises. But a few cases may be mentioned when Mr. Rice Holmes takes issue with received or current doctrine. He displays commendable skepticism with regard to the theories of M. Salomon Reinach which explain the domestication of animals as an outgrowth of totemism and attribute the discovery of the working of metals to the processes of primitive magic (see pages 55 ff. and 121); and he urges valid criticisms (pp. 278-279) against the same scholar's wholesale denial of the existence of Celtic national gods. The origin of Druidism he assigns to a pre-Celtic population, a view which has found favor of late, for both archaeological and linguistic reasons. In his account of the ethnology of Britain, Mr. Holmes emphasizes the difficulties of the usual doctrine that the “round barrow” men were, from the first, speakers of Celtic. He tries to reclaim the name “Celtic” for a tall, dolichocephalic race, though he admits that there was race-mixture wherever the language was spoken. He contends also for a later date than has been recently urged for the arrival of Celtic speech in Britain.

In the closing chapters, where by reason of his previous studies the author is perhaps best entitled to be considered an expert, he expounds with much fullness Caesar's narrative of the invasions and illustrates it by many references to other sources of information about Gaul and Britain. In a long appendix he reviews the controversy concerning *Portus Itius* and pronounces decisively in favor of the identification with Boulogne.

The general arrangement of the book is intended to serve at once the interest of the scholar and of the general reader. Detailed discussions are relegated to the appendixes, and the text is kept free for the development of the main exposition. In spite of this provision the movement is occasionally clogged and the meaning obscure; but for the most part Mr. Holmes's presentation of the subject is clear, vigorous and extremely readable.

F. N. ROBINSON.

*The History of the World. A Survey of Man's Record.* Edited by Dr. H. F. HELMOLT. Volume VI. *Central and Northern Europe.* (New York: Dodd, Mead and Company. 1907. Pp. xiii, 669.)

THIS volume, nominally the sixth, is the eighth in order of publication, and completes Helmolt's great undertaking. Though the chapters by different authors are of unequal value as indicated below, as a whole this account of the early and medieval history of Western Europe appears to reach the high level of the earlier volumes and to be quite superior to the eighth volume recently noticed in this REVIEW. It is addressed more to scholars but is necessarily too brief to satisfy them. It is pervaded with the spirit of Lamprecht and Ratzel, but at the same time has drawn heavily from Ranke. It does to a considerable degree justify the hope expressed in the preface "that it will supply a reliable basis for research wherever the study of comparative ethnology is pursued upon those principles which Karl Lamprecht has illustrated in theory and practice".

As in the other volumes the translator has done his work well. The long involved German sentences have their full meaning rendered in smooth, suitable English. Through a misunderstanding of the German he speaks of Clovis as an Arian before the famous conversion to Roman Catholicism (p. 60), and he refers to the Finns as Indo-Germans (p. 6), but such cases of missing the meaning are rare. Dr. Helmolt read every page of the German edition and then passed over the proof-sheets to his father and his sister Elsa. The English edition has not enjoyed such fond care. There are nearly forty misprints of dates and names. There are several excellent maps, genealogical tables of unusual detail on obscure or lesser ruling families, and a score of illustrations which have real historical and some artistic merit.

The opening chapter by the archaeologist, Dr. Weule, and by a native of the Baltic, Dr. Girgensohn, is an excellent sketch of the importance of the Baltic in history from the earliest times to the present day. Besides tracing in turn the Hanseatic, Swedish, Russian and German periods of dominant influence, it serves to transport the reader from Eastern Europe (in vol. V.) to the chapters on Central and Northern Europe which form the subject-matter of the present volume.